

## MERRIWETHER MIDDLE

P.O. Box 7010

North Augusta, South Carolina 29861

**GRADES** 6-8 Middle School

**ENROLLMENT** 381 Students

**PRINCIPAL** Virginia W. Culbertson 803-279-2511

**SUPERINTENDENT** Dr. Sharon W. Keesley 803-275-4601

**BOARD CHAIR** Bradley D. Covar 803-637-3775

## THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

# 2003

#### ABSOLUTE RATING:

**GOOD**

Absolute Ratings of Middle Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
1	22	17	1	0

#### IMPROVEMENT RATING:

**BELOW AVERAGE**

#### ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

**NO**

This school met 17 out of 21 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups and student attendance rate.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

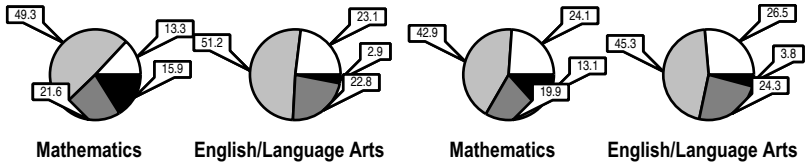
**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:**




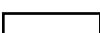
**[WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM](http://WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM)**

**[WWW.SCEOC.ORG](http://WWW.SCEOC.ORG)**

**PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD**

	<b>Absolute Rating</b>	<b>Improvement Rating</b>	<b>Adequate Yearly Progress</b>
2001	Average	Unsatisfactory	N/A
2002	Good	Below Average	N/A
2003	Good	Below Average	No
2004			

**PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS****Our School****Middle Schools with Students like Ours****Definition of Critical Terms**

	<b>Advanced</b>	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	<b>Proficient</b>	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	<b>Basic</b>	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	<b>Below Basic</b>	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

**NOTE:** Science and social studies are to be included in the 2005 school report card.

**EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS**

	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Parents</b>
Number of surveys returned	17	103	62
Percent satisfied with learning environment	94.1%	73.8%	82.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	94.1%	68.0%	61.0%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	88.2%	80.4%	75.4%

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced	State Objective
English/Language Arts								
All students	356	99.2	23.1	51.2	22.8	2.9	25.7	17.6
Gender								
Male	181	98.3	26.7	51.7	19.8	1.7	21.5	17.6
Female	175	100.0	19.5	50.6	25.9	4.0	29.9	17.6
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	271	98.9	20.1	49.6	26.5	3.8	30.3	17.6
African-American	77	100.0	35.1	54.1	10.8	N/A	10.8	17.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	100.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Hispanic	5	100.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Disability Status								
Not disabled	303	99.3	14.8	55.6	26.3	3.4	29.6	17.6
Disabled	53	98.1	73.5	24.5	2.0	N/A	2.0	17.6
Migrant Status								
Migrant	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Non-migrant	356	99.2	23.1	51.2	22.8	2.9	25.7	17.6
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Non-limited English proficient	356	99.2	23.1	51.2	22.8	2.9	25.7	17.6
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	144	99.3	34.5	53.2	11.5	0.7	12.2	17.6
Full-pay meals	212	99.1	15.5	49.8	30.4	4.3	34.8	17.6

Mathematics								
All students	356	100.0	13.3	49.3	21.6	15.9	37.5	15.5
Gender								
Male	181	100.0	15.6	47.4	23.1	13.9	37.0	15.5
Female	175	100.0	10.9	51.1	20.1	17.8	37.9	15.5
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	271	100.0	10.2	48.3	23.0	18.5	41.5	15.5
African-American	77	100.0	25.7	51.4	16.2	6.8	23.0	15.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	100.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Hispanic	5	100.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Disability Status								
Not disabled	303	100.0	7.7	49.5	24.2	18.5	42.8	15.5
Disabled	53	100.0	46.0	48.0	6.0	N/A	6.0	15.5
Migrant Status								
Migrant	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Non-migrant	356	100.0	13.3	49.3	21.6	15.9	37.5	15.5
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Non-limited English proficient	356	100.0	13.3	49.3	21.6	15.9	37.5	15.5
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	144	100.0	19.4	55.4	18.0	7.2	25.2	15.5
Full-pay meals	212	100.0	9.1	45.2	24.0	21.6	45.7	15.5

**PACT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVEL**

		Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced
English/Language Arts								
2002	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	98	N/A	20.4	53.1	21.4	5.1	26.5
	Grade 7	116	N/A	14.2	50.4	30.1	5.3	35.4
	Grade 8	103	N/A	18.8	53.5	19.8	7.9	27.7
2003	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	142	99.3	27.7	47.4	22.6	2.2	24.8
	Grade 7	103	99.0	13.9	57.4	24.8	4.0	28.7
	Grade 8	111	99.1	25.9	50.0	21.3	2.8	24.1
Mathematics								
2002	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	98	N/A	21.4	49.0	14.3	15.3	29.6
	Grade 7	116	N/A	19.5	41.6	21.2	17.7	38.9
	Grade 8	103	N/A	20.8	63.4	10.9	5.0	15.8
2003	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	142	100.0	5.8	46.7	25.5	21.9	47.4
	Grade 7	103	100.0	17.8	40.6	25.7	15.8	41.6
	Grade 8	111	100.0	18.3	60.6	12.8	8.3	21.1

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n= 381)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	45.4%	Up from 42.3%	20.0%	14.4%
Retention rate	2.1%	Up from 1.8%	1.9%	2.3%
Attendance rate	95.5%	Down from 97.3%	95.5%	95.2%
Eligible for gifted and talented	23.0%	Up from 17.3%	19.1%	13.6%
On academic plans	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
On academic probation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With disabilities other than speech	14.2%	Down from 15.0%	13.7%	14.1%
Older than usual for grade	5.2%	Up from 4.8%	3.8%	4.9%
Suspended or expelled	0.8%	Down from 1.5%	1.5%	1.3%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%

Teachers (n= 25)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	36.0%	Down from 37.5%	47.3%	47.1%
Continuing contract teachers	88.0%	Up from 87.5%	88.0%	82.5%
Highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers returning from previous year	85.5%	Down from 86.7%	86.8%	84.3%
Teacher attendance rate	94.3%	Down from 96.4%	95.4%	95.0%
Average teacher salary	\$36,814	Up 1.1%	\$40,799	\$39,924
Prof. development days/teacher	8.0 days	Up from 5.0 days	10.5 days	10.7 days

School				
Principal's years at school	4.0	Up from 3.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio	20.8 to 1	Down from 21.4 to 1	22.7 to 1	21.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.4%	Down from 92.5%	89.6%	88.9%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$0	Down 543000.0%	\$5,588	\$5,854
Percent spent on teacher salaries*	N/A	N/A	62.2%	62.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Good	Good
Parents attending conferences	98.1%	Down from 99.1%	94.3%	94.8%
SACS accreditation	yes	N/A	yes	yes

\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools	N/A	N/A
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data							
<b>N/A</b>	Not Applicable	<b>N/C</b>	Not Collected	<b>N/R</b>	Not Reported	<b>I/S</b>	Insufficient Sample

**REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL**

Merriwether Middle School is located in rural Edgefield County not far from North Augusta, S. C. Our school serves approximately 375 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students from various ethnic and economic backgrounds. We are committed to the middle school concept with our students scheduled in teams of teachers so that the transition from elementary to high school is made easier and so that teachers can integrate units of study and plan for students' success. Every student attends five academic classes and two exploratory classes each day. Language arts and reading classes are blocked to allow teachers to correlate speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities. Exploratory classes include art, chorus, band, physical education, keyboarding, journalism, technology, life skills, and reading and math enrichment. The computer assisted instruction lab affords students an opportunity to practice PACT skills. Students participate in a number of School-to-Work activities, such as: running the school store, producing the school newspaper, and producing the closed circuit television program. Each eighth grade student is offered courses for high school credit. Among the high school credit classes are band, keyboarding, English I and Algebra I. Students are rewarded for academic achievement and character development with Awards' Days, Gold Cards, Student of the Month selection, etc.

Merriwether Middle School's motto is "We can't hide that Mustang pride," and we are proud of our accomplishments throughout the years. We received School Incentive Award recognition in 1994-95, 1995-96, and 1998-99. We received a visit from the Palmetto's Finest Committee in 1997, and we are currently seeking recognition by the Writing Improvement Network for our exemplary writing program, Writing Across the Curriculum. Every year we have a high number of students who qualify to take the PSAT, and we have had a number of Junior Scholars throughout the years. This past year we had 14 Junior Scholars. We participate in a number of academic competitions such as MathCounts, the district Spelling Bee, Lt. Governor's Writing Award, CSRA Science Fair and various writing contests. We often have district, regional and state winners. Recently two of our students were chosen to be among Creative Communication's Top Ten student poets in North and South Carolina schools. Also, this year two of our students won first place in the Junior Division of the CSRA Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

Our school is an Accredited School with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and has an "all clear" status with the South Carolina Department of Education. Two of our teachers have received National Board Certification. We have an active Parent Teacher Organization and a very involved School Improvement Council. We have been described as "one of South Carolina schools' best kept secrets."

**DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS**

- Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

**DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS**

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specified that the statewide target is met for all students and for each subgroup of students: racial/ethnic, economic, disability, limited English proficiency and migrant status.